

International Expert on Healthcare Waste Management Guidelines and Plan Development

Location:	Juba
Application Deadline:	
Type of Contract:	Individual Contract
Post Level:	International Consultant
Languages Required:	English
Starting Date:	
Duration of Initial Contract:	25 working days

Cordaid is committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Individuals from minority groups, indigenous groups and persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply. All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Cordaid does not tolerate sexual exploitation and abuse, any kind of harassment, including sexual harassment, and discrimination. All selected candidates will, therefore, undergo rigorous reference and background checks.

Background

The project objective is to reduce the releases of unintentionally produced persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and other globally harmful pollutants into the environment by promoting sound healthcare waste management in South Sudan; and to assist the country in implementing its relevant obligations under the Stockholm Convention.

The Project consists of the following principal components:

- Stockholm Convention NIP update and improved institutional coordination on chemical MEAs.
- Assessment of overall mercury situation and preliminary plan of mercury use reduction and collection.
- Minimization of unintentional POPs and mercury releases in selected hospitals through demonstration of sound Healthcare Waste Management approaches;
- Monitoring, learning, adaptive feedback, outreach, and evaluation.

National capacity on POPs monitoring is a key condition for preliminary action plans on mercury reduction and rational healthcare waste management.

Uncontrolled incineration of medical waste is a significant source of dioxin and furan releases. The existing Republic of South Sudan legal system regulating healthcare waste was established by the introduction of sanitary-hygienic requirements by the Ministry of Health in ---. These acts provided for the prohibition of infectious waste disposal in sanitary landfills and contributed to the construction of waste incinerators in the provinces.

The changes, which were introduced into the healthcare legislation were not, though, institutionally and legally coordinated with relevant environmental regulatory measures. One current example is that sanitary requirements do not fill regulatory gaps concerning the imposition of hazardous healthcare waste's transportation rules according to the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, and ADR agreement of which South Sudan is a party, and control of waste treatment operations,

including emission standard for waste incineration.

The legislation of South Sudan does not set emission standards for waste incineration or any other technical requirements for the given process. However, a waste incinerator, like any other object of waste disposal, is to be assessed in terms of its environmental impact and has to obtain a permit for waste utilization before it sets to work. The given permit includes requirements on the release of some pollutants, with the exception of uPOPs and heavy metals, with the follow-up payment of relevant environmental duties. However, in reality, pollution test checks are not performed; the volume of incinerator emissions is estimated theoretically in the process of getting a permit for its operation and later is to be adjusted and monitored by its owner. Thus, monitoring and control over emissions resulting from waste incineration is practically inexistent. Considerable deterioration of the environmental situation is observed during incineration of infectious wastes, which according to generally accepted practice, undergo bromine chlorine disinfection prior to incineration, which leads to still greater release of dioxins and furans; chlorine compounds are released in disposal fields as well. Additional environmental problem is due to the formal classification of fallouts following the incineration of domestic wastes and the utilization of these fallouts in disposal fields that are not meant for that.

Duties and Responsibilities

In order to achieve the objectives of the project «NIP update, integration of POPs into national planning and promoting sound healthcare waste management in South Sudan (Component 3) will be carried out the following activities:

- Development of a healthcare waste management Plan for selected pilot hospitals.
- Development of regional healthcare waste management Plan in pilot regions.
- Drafting of recommendations for a national Plan of healthcare waste management.
- Development of a national Plan for healthcare waste management.
- (The plan for pilot hospitals and regional healthcare waste management plans should include analysis of existing waste management system; activities on elimination of existing shortcomings; proposals for improving healthcare waste management and monitoring systems; proposals on optimization and reduction of costs for healthcare waste management);
- Preparation of recommendations for economic analysis of healthcare waste management taking into account the international experience.
- Preparation of proposals for the introduction of additions to the curriculum of medical schools and further vocational training for healthcare personnel regarding the handling of healthcare waste;
- Consultation on project issues.

Competencies

Corporate competencies:

- Demonstrate working relationship with the Ministry of Health and aware of health sector policies.
- Demonstrates integrity by modelling the UN's values and ethical standards.
- Fulfils all obligations to gender sensitivity and zero tolerance for sexual harassment.

- Promotes the vision, mission, and strategic goals of Cordaid.
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality, and age sensitivity and adaptability.
- Treats all people fairly without favoritism.

Functional competencies:

- Strong expertise in waste management.
- Familiarity with the International Conventions addressing wastes, chemicals, mercury etc.
- Excellent written communication skills, with analytic capacity; and
- Ability to synthesize relevant collected data and findings for the preparation of quality analysis.

Required Skills and Experience

Academic qualification:

- Master's degree in natural sciences, ecology, or related fields.

Required skills and experience.

- Minimum 7-year experience in the field of healthcare waste handling.
- Experience in project implementation in the field of healthcare waste management in international organizations not less than 5 years.
- Experience in project implementation and monitoring of healthcare waste management in the context of South Sudan/UNDP.

Language requirements:

- Excellent writing English skills are essential.
- Knowledge of Arabic would be an asset.